

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A remote control system of controlling an electronic appliance through the Internet, comprising:
 - an electronic appliance comprising:
 - a telephone network accessing unit, which is accessible with a proper telephone number of the electronic appliance,
 - a power supplying unit, and
 - a controller controlling the power supplying unit so that the electronic appliance is supplied with driving power according to a telephone signal received through the telephone network accessing unit; and
 - a remote control server comprising:
 - a telephone number database to store the proper telephone number of the electronic appliance,
 - a telephone signal transmitting unit to transmit the telephone signal to the electronic appliance, and
 - a server controlling unit to read out the proper telephone number of the electronic appliance from the telephone number database according to a selection of power control of the electronic appliance by a user making an access thereto through the Internet, to control the telephone signal transmitting unit, and to supply the telephone signal to the telephone network accessing unit of the selected electronic appliance having the read proper telephone number through the telephone network so that power of the selected electronic appliance is enabled.
2. The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the telephone signal comprises a ring signal or a DTMF (dual-tone multi-frequency) signal.
3. The remote control system according to claim 1,
 - wherein the remote control server further comprises a user information database storing therein information on the user of the electronic appliance, and
 - wherein the server controlling unit requests the user to enter proper information on the user when the user accesses the server controlling unit via the Internet, compares the proper user information entered by the user with the stored user information in the user information database to determine whether the proper user information and the stored user information are

identical, and allows access of the user when the proper user information and the stored user information are identical.

4. The remote control system according to claim 1,
wherein the electronic appliance further comprises an Internet accessing unit allowing access to the remote control server through the Internet, and
wherein the controller transmits a result of control of the electronic appliance to the remote control server through the Internet accessing unit.

5. A remote control method of controlling an electronic appliance through the Internet, comprising:
storing a proper telephone number of the electronic appliance in a remote control server;
allowing a user to access the remote control server through the Internet; and
controlling the electronic appliance to enable a power thereof by reading out the stored proper telephone number of the electronic appliance that is selected according to a selection of power control of the electronic appliance by the user accessing the remote control server and by supplying a telephone signal to the selected electronic appliance having the proper telephone number through a telephone network.

6. The remote control method according to claim 5, wherein the telephone signal comprises a ring signal or a DTMF (dual-tone multi-frequency) signal.

7. The remote control method according to claim 5, further comprising:
storing information on the user of the electronic appliance;
requesting the user to enter a proper user information when the user accesses the remote control server via the Internet;
determining whether the proper user information is identical to the stored user information when the proper user information has been entered; and
allowing access by the user when the proper user information and the stored user information are identical.

8. The remote control method according to claim 5, further comprising:
allowing the user accessing the remote control server to ascertain a result of control of the electronic appliance transmitted to the remote control server via the Internet.

9. A system to remotely control electronic appliances, comprising:
a user terminal;
a remote control server that is connected to the user terminal via the Internet; and
a plurality of electronic appliances that are connected to the remote control server via a telephone network,
wherein a user controls power to the plurality of electronic appliances via the user terminal.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the user selects one of the plurality of electronic appliances to control using the user terminal, wherein the selected electronic appliance transmits appliance information to the remote control server via the Internet, and wherein the remote control server transmits the appliance information to the user terminal.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the appliance information comprises a telephone number, a current power status, an IP (internet protocol) address, a time of control, and a result of control.

12. The system of claim 9, wherein the remote control server comprises:
a user information database to store user information, wherein the user information comprises a stored ID (identifier) and a stored password;
a telephone number database to store a plurality of assigned telephone numbers that correspond to the plurality of electronic appliances;
a telephone signal transmitting unit to transmit a telephone signal to the plurality of electronic appliances;
an internet accessing unit to access the Internet; and
a server controlling unit to retrieve one of the plurality of assigned telephone numbers corresponding to one of the plurality of electronic devices from the telephone number database and to control the telephone signal transmitting unit, to compare the user information with an inputted ID and an inputted password.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the user terminal displays the plurality of electronic appliances to the user as a list by name, as a plurality of symbols, or as a list by assigned telephone number.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein each of the plurality of electronic devices comprises:

- a telephone network accessing unit to receive the telephone signal and to cause power to be supplied to the electronic device;
- a power supplying unit to supply power to the electronic device;
- a controller to control the power supplying unit based upon the telephone signal; and
- an internet accessing unit to transmit appliance information to the remote control server.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the telephone signal is a ring signal, and wherein power is supplied to the electronic device when a ring signal is detected.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the telephone signal is a DTMF (dual-tone multi-frequency) signal, and wherein power is supplied to the electronic device when a signal is detected that corresponds to a predetermined button on a telephone.

17. The system of claim 12, wherein the server controlling unit allows the user to control the plurality of electronic devices when the user information is equivalent to the inputted ID and inputted password.

18. The system of claim 12, wherein the telephone network accessing unit is always in a standby mode, while power to the electronic device is deactivated.

19. A remote control server that is connected to a user terminal via an Internet and to a plurality of electronic appliances via a telephone network, comprising:

- a user information database to store user information, wherein the user information comprises a stored ID (identifier) and a stored password;
- a telephone number database to store a plurality of assigned telephone numbers that correspond to the plurality of electronic appliances;
- a telephone signal transmitting unit to transmit a telephone signal to the plurality of electronic appliances;
- an internet accessing unit to access the Internet; and
- a server controlling unit to retrieve one of the plurality of assigned telephone numbers corresponding to one of the plurality of electronic devices from the telephone number database

and to control the telephone signal transmitting unit, to compare the user information with an inputted ID and an inputted password,

wherein a user controls power to the plurality of electronic appliances via the user terminal.